



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Glacier Bay National Park  
and Preserve

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## Glacier Bay News Release

**Effective date:** September 1, 2005

**Contact(s):** Susan Boudreau (Acting Superintendent) or Wendy Bredow (Acting District Ranger)

**Phone number:** 907 697-2230

**Date:** August 31, 2005

### **Lower Bay Course and Speed Restrictions Remain in Effect to Protect Whales**

In Accordance with Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations  
13.65 (b)(3)(iv)(D)(2)(v)(A)(2)

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve Acting Superintendent Susan Boudreau announced today that the 13 knot speed limit and mid-channel course restriction in lower Glacier Bay will remain in effect until further notice.

Under the park's Vessel Management Plan the mid-channel course restriction (for vessels greater than 18 feet in length) is scheduled to automatically end after August 31 in all whale waters. However, over the past week, a minimum of 10 humpback whales have been observed in lower Glacier Bay. Therefore, the mid-channel course restriction in the lower bay will remain in effect until further notice. In addition, due to the number and distribution of whales in this area, the 13 knot speed limit will remain in effect until further notice.

As shown on the attached map, this area encompasses the designated lower bay whale waters only. The number and distribution of whales in the park's other whale waters do not warrant keeping the course restriction in place in these areas. Therefore, the mid-channel course restriction in Whidbey Passage, the entrance to the East Arm and Russell Passage whale waters is lifted as of September 1. There is no speed limit in any of these other whale waters areas.

All motorized vessels are required to follow these speed and course restrictions at all times, except when wind or sea conditions would make it unsafe to do so. Speed and course restrictions in whale waters are intended to reduce the interruption of feeding whales and to lower the risk of whale/vessel collisions. The humpback whale is a federally listed endangered species that feeds on small schooling fish and krill in Alaska waters.

Boaters are advised to verify whale waters designations prior to entering Glacier Bay by telephoning (907) 697-2627 or by contacting KWM20 Bartlett Cove on marine VHF radio.

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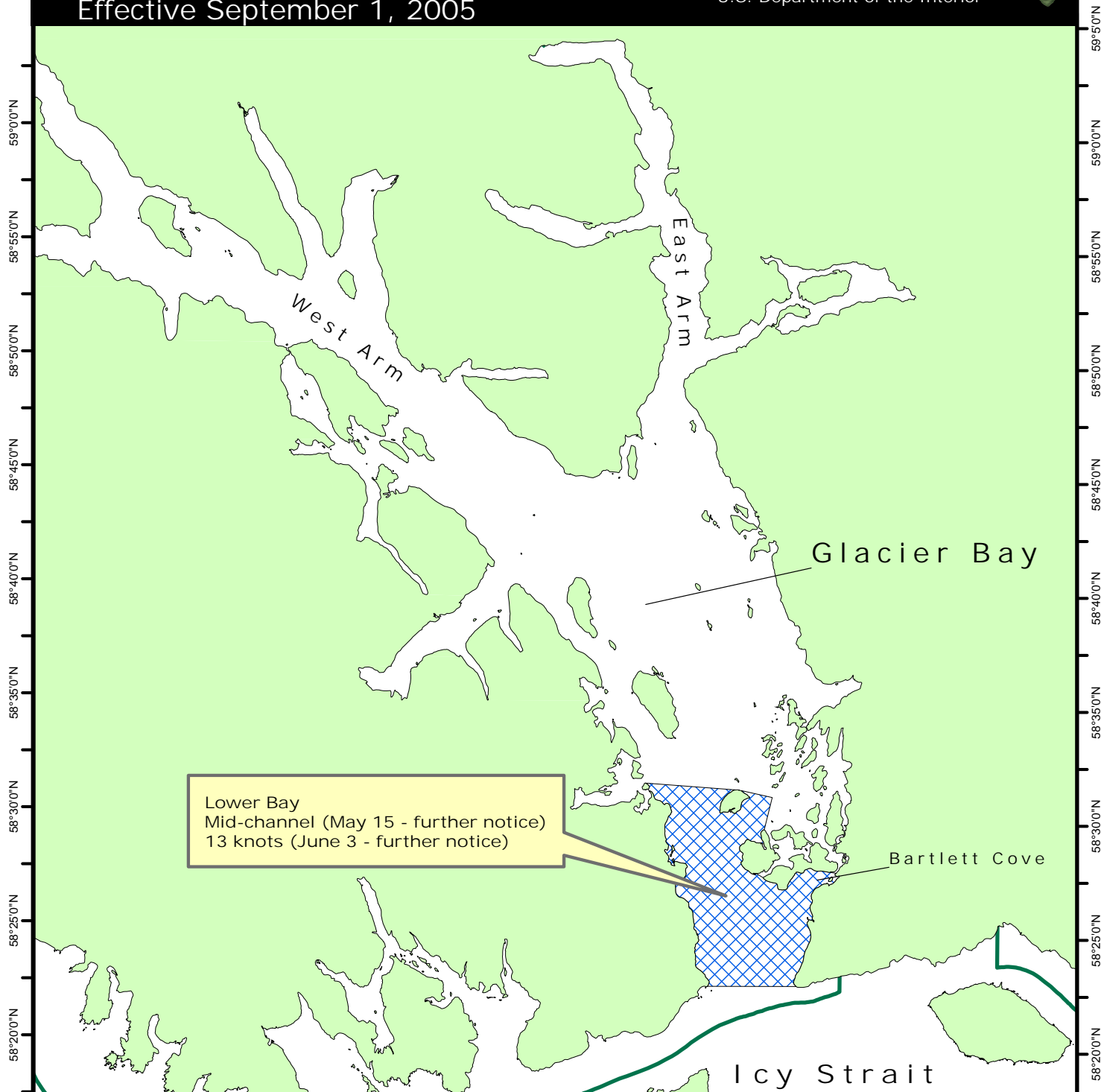
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# Whale Waters

Effective September 1, 2005

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Park Boundary

ALASKA



Glacier Bay National Park  
Resource Management

0 1 2 4 6 8 Nautical Miles  
1 inch equals 7 miles